UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT NO.	:	**US 6,874,036 B2**
DATED	:	**MARCH 29, 2005**
INVENTOR	:	**FREEMAN LEIGH RAWSON III**
ASSIGNEE	:	**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION**

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.322

ATTENTION: CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTIONS BRANCH
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in connection with the above referenced patent. The Patent contains one or more errors and, accordingly, a Certificate of Correction is respectfully requested. Attachment A to this document shows the error(s) and requested corrections. In addition, a proposed Certificate of Correction is attached.

Assignee believes that, because the errors corrected herein were incurred through the fault of the Patent and Trademark Office, no fee is required under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.322. If, however, a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Lally & Lally, L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 50-0335/IBM.5230.

If any questions arise during the processing of this request, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.
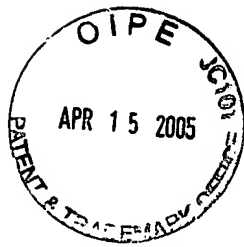
Respectfully submitted,

Joseph P. Lally
Reg. No. 38,947
ATTORNEY FOR ASSIGNEE

PLEASE FORWARD THE CERTIFICATE
TO ASSIGNEE AT:

IBM CORPORATION, IP LAW DEPT.
11400 Burnet Road
Austin, Texas 78758

APRIL 12, 2005

ATTACHMENT A

4. The network of claim 1, wherein the combined PDU <u>includes a first header indicative of the size of</u> the payload of the second PDU and a second header indicative of the size of the entire payload of the combined PDU.

13. A method of transmitting protocol data units (PDUs) across a data processing network comprising:

first network interface card (NIC) storing a first protocol data unit (PDU) received from the second NIC, in a buffer of the first NIC; wherein, the first server includes the first network interface card (NIC) that connects the first server to a central switch; the first server being a management server and managing a second server using management information; the second server including a second network interface card (NIC) that connects the second server to the central switch;

the first NIC determining that the first PDU is of a first [time] <u>type</u> consisting of just a single header; wherein, the single header being a media access control (MAC) header; wherein, the first PDU is generated at the data link layer of the network's protocol stack, containing the management information;

the first NIC detecting available unused space in a second PDU of a second type received from the second NIC and generated at the highest level of the network's protocol stack; and

the first NIC determining that the first PDU and the second PDU are destined to a common target, the first NIC storing a payload of the first PDU in the available unused space of a payload of the second PDU to form a combined PDU.

22 (currently amended). A management server suitable for operating in a data processing network, comprising:

the management server including a first network interface card (NIC) that connects the management server to a central switch; the first NIC comprising a buffer; the management server managing a second server using management information;

the second server including a second network interface card (NIC) that connects the second server to the central switch;

wherein, the first NIC is configured to store, a first protocol data unit (PDU) received from the second NIC, in the buffer, after the first NIC determining that the first PDU is of a first type consisting of just a single header; wherein, the single header being a media access control (MAC) header; where, the first PDU is generated at the data link layer of the network's protocol stack, containing the management information; and

wherein, the first NIC is further configured to, detect available unused [spaces] space, in a second PDU of a second type received from the second NIC and generated at the highest level of the network's protocol stack; and after determining that the first PDU and the second PDU are destined to a common target, the first NIC stores a payload of the first PDU in the available unused space of a payload of the second PDU to form a combined PDU.

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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

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the first NIC determining that the first PDU is of a first [time] type consisting of just a single header; wherein, the single header being a media access control (MAC) header; wherein, the first PDU is generated at the data link layer of the network's protocol stack, containing the management information;

the first NIC detecting available unused space in a second PDU of a second type received from the second NIC and generated at the highest level of the network's protocol stack; and

the first NIC determining that the first PDU and the second PDU are destined to a common target, the first NIC storing a payload of the first PDU in the available unused space of a payload of the second PDU to form a combined PDU.

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